

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 OMB-01

CU-04 AID-20 SIL-01 LAB-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 DRC-01 /110 W

----- 114187

O 160917Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL UDORN

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE121

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 16

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: UDORN SITREP 1200 JAN 16

REF: UDORN 14

1. AIR AMERICA (AA) STRIKE CONTINUES ESCALATE WITH SOME VIOLENCE REPORTED. STRIKERS JAN WNT AND 16 BLOCKED ENTRY INTO BASE OF AA EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING NON-THAI AS WELL AS THAI. THEY ALSO PHONED THAI EMPLOYEES AT WORK JAN 15 AND THREATENED FAMILIES WOULD BE HURT IF THEY DID NOT QUIT WORK WHICH MOST DID. SEVERAL AMERICANS HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN PHYSICALLY HARMED, ALTHOUGH NOT SERIOUSLY. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN REPORTS THAT OUTSIDE THUGS HAVE JOINED STRIKERS AND THAT STRIKERS WHIPPING UP SUPPORT AT UDORN TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

2. I SAW GOV JAN 15 TO CONVEY AA PROTEST THAT STRIKERS NOT LIVING UP TO AGREEMENT REPORTED REFTEL THAT THEY WOULD NOT BOTHER OTHER EMPLOYEES. GOV LEFT LAST NIGHT FOR BANGKOK NOT TO RETURN
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UNTIL JAN 19, BUT INSTRUCTED VICE GOV TO CONTACT PROVINCIAL POLICE

CHIEF TO INVESTIGATE THREATS TO EMPLOYEES AND ALSO TO ASK STRIKER REP CHATCHAWAN TO GET STRIKERS TO STOP DISTURBING OTHER EMPLOYEES. PROBLEM IS THAT AGREEMENT SAYS WORKERS WOULD CONTINUE STRIKE PENDING RESPONSE TO DEMANDS, WHICH STRIKERS INTERPET AS MEANING ALL WORKERS WILL STRIKE WHILE AA THINKS IT SHOULD REFER ONLY TO THOSE WHO WANT TO STRIKE.

3. I SAW VICE GOV EARLY THIS MORNING TO REPORT INCREASED THREATS TO EMPLOYEES TODAY. STRIKERS NOT ONLY AT AIR AMERICA GATE WHERE THEY WERE YESTERDAY BUT ALSO AT AIR FORCE GATE. MOREOVER, THEY BLOCKING ACCESS NOT ONLY THAI EMPLOYEES, AS THEY DID YESTERDAY, BUT ALSO NON-THAI. VICE GOV HAD DONE NOTHING SINCE I SAW GOV LAST NIGHT. WHEN I SAW HIM, HOWEVER, HE CALLED IN POLICE CHIEF AND PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICER. FORMER AGREED SEND POLICE TO BOTH GATES (THEY WERE NOT THERE AT 0945 WHEN WE DROVE BY) AND SAID THEY WOULD PROTECT EMPLOYEES TRYING TO COME ON BASE IF AA PROVIDED LIST OF NAMES, HOMES, AND TIMES THEY COMING TO AND

LEAVING WORK. AA TOLD ME TI WOULD BE EASIER FOR EMPLOYEES TO GO TO POLICE STATION AND WE NOW TRYING ARRANGE WITH POLICE. PROVINCIAL LABOR OFFICER THIS MORNING ALSO SAID HE WOULD TRY CONTACT CHATCHAWAN TO GET STRIKERS TO COOL IT.

4. DISTRICT POLICE CHIEF HAS INVITED US AND OTHER CONCERNED PARTIES TO MEET THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS REPORT THAT IF STRIKE DEMANDS NOT MET BY JAN 18 DEADLINE, STRIKERS WILL DAMAGE U.S.

INSTALLATIONS, INCLUDING CONSULATE. HE SAID HE WOULD PROVIDE POLICE PROTECTION.

5. WE AND U.S. MILITARY HAD NO PROBLEM GETTING ON BASE THIS MORNING, BUT POSSIBILITY THAT WE MAY BE STOPPED WHICH WOULD CUT OUR TELEGRAPHIC LINKS. BROH-KAHN. GDS.

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Message Attributes

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